

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

**Before "Background of the Invention," please insert the following:**

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

The present application is a Continuation of commonly assigned and copending US patent application serial number 10/066,462 filed on January 31, 2002, which is a Continuation of US patent application serial number 09/417,520, filed October 13, 1999, now patent 6,423,081, which is a Divisional of USSN 09/146,743, filed September 3, 1998, now patent number 6,022,362.

**At the end of the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section, insert:**

"Fig. 10 shows another embodiment of the present invention, equipped with a removable transducer core.

Fig. 11 shows a transducer core suitable for the embodiment of Fig. 10.

Fig. 12 is a cross-sectional view of Fig. 10, taken along line AA'.

Fig. 13 shows an expandable sheath according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Fig. 14 shows another embodiment of a soft tissue excisional device assembly according to the present invention.

Fig. 15 shows an embodiment of a cutting tool according to another embodiment of the present invention, in an intermediate state of manufacture.

Fig. 16 shows the cutting tool of Fig. 15, bent in its final configuration.

Fig. 17 shows an embodiment of the method of excisional biopsy method according to the present invention."